

FEB 1 2 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Norihiko AZE, et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 10/664,920

ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH

FILING DATE: September 22, 2003

FOR: METHOD FOR EVALUATING FIXING MEMBER AND FIXING BELT AND THERMAL  
FIXING ROLLER**FILING OF DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(f)**COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

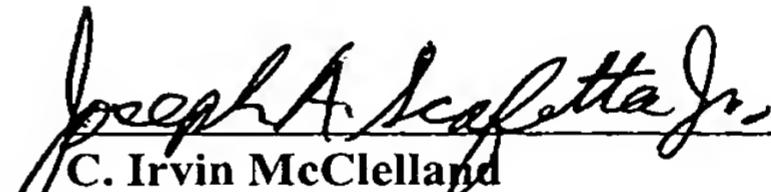
Responsive to the notification dated December 12, 2003, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.53(f),  
Applicants submit herewith a Rule 63 Declaration.

**Please note that the serial number on the Declaration is 10/664,921 as shown on the Advance Notice Serial  
Number Postcard (Copy Attached). The Official Filing Receipt Serial Number however shows 10/664,920.**

The required fee was paid at the time of filing the application.

In light of the foregoing, this application is deemed to be in proper condition for examination and such favorable  
action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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## Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition

Page 1 of 4

WE (I) the undersigned inventor(s), hereby declare(s) that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

We (I) believe that we are (I am) the original, first and joint (sole) inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

### **METHOD FOR EVALUATING FIXING MEMBER AND FIXING BELT AND THERMAL FIXING ROLLER**

the specification of which

is attached hereto.

was filed on September 22, 2003 as

Application Serial No. 10/664,921

and amended on \_\_\_\_\_

was filed as PCT international application

Number \_\_\_\_\_

on \_\_\_\_\_,

and was amended under PCT Article 19

on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

We (I) hereby state that we (I) have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We (I) acknowledge the duty to disclose information known to be material to the patentability of this application as defined in Section 1.56 of Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations.

We (I) hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed. Prior Foreign Application(s)

Application No.	Country	Day/Month/Year	Priority Claimed
2002-81741	Japan	22/03/2002	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2003-200442	Japan	23/07/2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

We (I) hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

(Application Number) \_\_\_\_\_ (Filing Date) \_\_\_\_\_

(Application Number) \_\_\_\_\_ (Filing Date) \_\_\_\_\_

We (I) hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or under § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status (pending, patented, abandoned)
10/394,227	March 24, 2003	Pending

And we (I) hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s):



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as our (my) attorneys, with full powers of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent Office connected therewith; and we (I) hereby request that all correspondence regarding this application be sent to



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We (I) declare that all statements made herein of our (my) own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

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Signature of Inventor

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